

Message Text

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51

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DRAFTED BY AF/W:RAMCGUIRE:IW (TEXT REC'D FROM WH)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, TSPA, US, LI, UR

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REPLY TO PRESIDENT TOLBERT'S CONGRAT-
ULATIONS ON APOLLO-SOYUZ

1. EMBASSY REQUESTED DELIVER FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT
TOLBERT FROM PRESIDENT FORD. QTE: DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:
THANK YOU FOR YOUR MESSAGE OF GOOD WISHES AS WE CELEBRATE
THE SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THE APOLLO-SOYUZ MISSION.

I HAVE BEEN HEARTENED BY THE POSITIVE RESULTS OF THIS FIRST
INTERNATIONAL MANNED SPACE VENTURE AND HAVE GREAT HOPES FOR
FUTURE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN SPACE. IN MY CONVER-
SATION WITH THE APOLLO AND SOYUZ CREWS AS THEY SAT TOGETHER
ORBITING HIGH ABOVE THE EARTH, I STATED MY CONVICTION THAT,
THANKS TO THEIR JOINT FLIGHT, THE DAY IS NOT FAR OFF WHEN
INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS OF THIS SORT WILL BE MORE OR LESS
COMMONPLACE.

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THE APOLLO-SOYUZ MISSION DEMONSTRATES THAT, BY COMBINING

THEIR SKILLS AND INTELLECT, NATIONS OF THE WORLD HAVE ENORMOUS POTENTIAL FOR SOLVING COMMON PROBLEMS AND ATTAINING COMMON GOALS ON EARTH AS WELL AS IN SPACE. SINCERELY,
GERALD R. FORD. UNQTE.

2. WHITE HOUSE DOES NOT PLAN TO RELEASE TEXT OF MESSAGES,
BUT HAS NO OBJECTION TO RELEASE BY GOL.

3. FYI. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT
TOLBERT RECEIVED BY COMMERCIAL CABLE AT WHITE HOUSE. QTE:
THE PRESIDENT, WHITE HOUSE, MY GREAT AND GOOD FRIEND, WE
IN LIBERIA HAVE RECEIVED WITH DEEP SATISFACTION AND PRO-
FOUND GRATIFICATION THE JOYOUS NEWS OF THE SUCCESSFUL
EVENT OF A LINK-UP IN SPACE BETWEEN THE AMERICAN APOLLO
AND THE RUSSIAN SOYUZ 19 SPACECRAFTS FORMING A SPACE-
TRAIN WHICH PERMITTED EXCHANGE OF VISITS IN SPACE BY THE
RUSSIAN COSMONAUTS AND THE AMERICAN ASTRONAUTS WHO
WARMLY GREETED EACH OTHER AS FRIENDS AND ENABLED THEM TO
PERFORM JOINT EXPERIMENTS OF GREAT SCIENTIFIC VALUE TO
MANKIND. THIS REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENT IS NO DOUBT AN
AFFIRMATION OF THE CORRECTNESS OF A POLICY OF OBJECTIVE
COOPERATION BY AMERICAN AND SOVIET SCIENTISTS, DESIGNERS,
ENGINEERS AND SPACEMEN WHICH NOW OPENS VAST NEW POSSIBILI-
TIES IN THE PURSUIT OF SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE FOR PEACEFUL
PURPOSES. IT IS OUR FERVENT HOPE THAT THIS TYPE OF INTER-
NATIONAL COOPERATION IN SPACE TECHNOLOGY WILL REFLECT
ITSELF IN ALL AREAS OF HUMAN ENDEAVOURS BRINGING TOGETHER
ALL MEN OF GOODWILL EVERYWHERE SO THAT THE RESOURCES OF
THIS PLANET WILL BE UTILIZED FOR THE IMPROVEMENT IN THE
STANDARD OF LIVING AND THE ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE
OF PEACE AND SECURITY THROUGHOUT OUR ONE WORLD. ON BE-
HALF OF THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF LIBERIA I EXTEND
HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS TO YOUR EXCELLENCY THE GOVERN-
MENT AND PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND
THROUGH YOU TO THE DAUNTLESS AND GALLANT ASTRONAUTS FOR
THEIR INDEFATIGABLE AND DEDICATED SERVICES TO HUMANITY.
IN COMMEMORATION OF THIS OUTSTANDING FEAT OF ACHIEVEMENT
IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY THE GOVERNMENT OF LIBERIA HAS
COMMISSIONED THE STRIKING OF POSTAGE STAMPS WHICH WILL BE
USED FOR MAIL DISTRIBUTION THROUGHOUT THE WORLD EVIDENCING
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OUR BELIEF IN THE NEED OF COMMUNICATION AS A PREREQUI-
SITE TO INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR HUMAN PROGRESS,
ADVANCEMENT AND WORLD PEACE. WITH RENEWED ASSURANCES OF
MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION AND PERSONAL ESTEEM SINCERELY,
WR TOLBERT JR. UNQTE. INGERSOLL

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